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The People's Korea

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World Public Actively Support New Proposals

The new proposals for north-south contacts for Korea's re-unification, which were made by Pyongyang in its letters dated on Jan. 11 to south Korean leading personages, political, religious, military, have been received by the world public with enthusiasm.

International organizations and foreign public organisations expressed their support to the new proposals in various forms such as statements, talks, telegrams, mass meetings, etc.

Introduced here are part of them:

AAPSO

Baren Ray, Deputy Secretary General of the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization, on February 17 issued a talk.

Saying that the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization warmly hails the new proposal of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, he declared:

In the name of the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization, I vehemently denounce the south Korean authorities for persisting in the fascist suppression of the people who demand the democratisation of society and the reunification of the country and in the policy of confrontation and division.

We hold that all the personages who are interested in the reunification of Korea should be entitled to participate in the dialogue. We strongly demand the south Korean authorities abolish at once all the suppressive measures including the fascist "martial law" and unconditionally and immediately release all the arrested and imprisoned people.

Reaffirming the unshakable support of the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization to the Korean people's cause of independent and peaceful reunification, he voiced firm solidarity with the just struggle of the Korean people to reunify the divided country.

Int'l Organizations

Telegrams or letters supporting the DPRK's efforts for the reunification of the country came from the National Council of the Front of Socialist Democracy and Unity of Romania, the Secretariat of the World Federation of Trade Unions, the President of the Gambia Labour Union, the Gambia Motordriver's, Mechanic's and Allied Worker's Union, National Committee of South of the Togolese People's Rally, and the Secretariat of the International Union of Students to their counterparts of the DPRK.

They pointed out that the new proposals proceeding from a sincere desire to bring earlier the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea are most reasonable and fair ones for promoting the reunification of the country without any outside interference through collaboration and unity between the north and south of Korea.

France

The French Action Committee to Support the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of Korea recently issued a statement.

The statement said:

All the peace-loving forces of France will unite efforts and conduct extensive solidarity activities in support of the proposals.

We call upon the French people to launch a movement for introducing Korea and vigorously carry on the solidarity movement for supporting the Korean people's struggle for the reunification of the country.

Denmark

Christen Amby, member of the presidium of the Danish Committee for Supporting Korea's Reunification and Chairman of the Denmark-DPRK Friendship Association, made public a talk on January 25.

He said:

Any responsible politician of Korea cannot turn his face away from the present state of division of Korea which started in the 1940's and has been carried into the 1980's. The partition of Korea must not continue any more.

We strongly demand that the U.S. armed forces, the main obstacle to Korean reunification, withdraw from south Korea at once, taking along all their lethal weapons.

Yugoslavia

Spokesman of the Yugoslav Foreign Secretariat Mirko Kalezic, at his recent press conference, said:

Yugoslavia has always actively supported all initiatives of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for a peaceful reunification of Korea.

He noted that the latest initiative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for high-level talks between the north and south represents an acceptable basis for a successful resumption of the dialogue.

He stressed that Yugoslavia assigns a particular importance to the possible renewal of the negotiations between the two parts of Korea.

Lebanon

The Lebanese Socialist Progressive Party, the Syrian Social Nationalist Party in Lebanon, the Lebanon Regional Committee of the Arab Socialist Baath Party, the Union of Lebanese Working People's Forces, the Beirut Municipal Political Council of Lebanon, the Lebanese Federation of Workers Trade Unions, the Lebanese Progressive Youth Organisation, the Lebanese Writers' Union, the Lebanon-Korea Friendship Association and the Lebanese Committee for Supporting Korea's Reunification on February 4 made public a joint statement.

The statement said:

We who have always positively supported the Korean people's just struggle for achieving the independent and peaceful reunification of the country on the three principles and five-point policy for national reunification advanced by the great leader His Excellency Kim Il Sung, President of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, regard the new proposals put forward by the DPRK side this time as a most reasonable, realistic and fair proposition for national salvation acceptable to all, and warmly support and hail the new proposals with the world progressive people who treasure peace and unity.

Egypt

Kamal Amer, Vice-Director of the Middle East News Agency of Egypt, issued a talk on January 26.

He stressed: The question is that not only the authorities of north and south Korea but also representatives of political parties and organizations and personages meet at one place and have a dialogue for the reunification of the country.

There is no reason for the south Korean authorities to refuse to accept this.

It is time that politicians took a correct stand on the question of Korean reunification.

Gabon

Martin Bongo, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of the Republic of Gabon, sent a telegram of solidarity to Foreign Minister Ho Dam. He said that the Republic of Gabon, true to the idea and principle of the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea, earnestly hopes for a final end to the differences existing between the north and the south so that the Korean people in the north and the south may enjoy prosperity.

Madagascar

Guy Rajaonson, legal adviser to the President of Madagascar, on January 31 made public a talk. He said that the division of Korea must not be continued any longer.

The proposals are now enjoying the unqualified support and sympathy of the Malagasy people and the world people.

If the south Korean authorities truly love the country and the nation and want reunification, they must reject outside forces and accept the proposals of the DPRK on holding a wide-range dialogue for national reunification.

He pointed out that at a time when the DPRK put forward important proposals to promote the country's reunification, the suppression of the people and war exercises are going on in south Korea.

Benin

The Benin Committee for Friendship and Solidarity with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea made public a statement on February 4.

The world people who love peace, justice and democracy are warmly supporting these just proposals, stressed the statement. It said:

We think that the proposals of the DPRK will bring a new advance and believe that it will certainly realise a wide-range dialogue for the reunification of the country.

We demand the U.S. imperialists, the very one responsible for the division of Korea, withdraw from south Korea.

Nordic Meet Backs Korea Reunion

A Nordic solidarity meeting for Korea's reunification was held on February 16 in Stockholm, Sweden, according to a KCNA report.

The meeting was attended by members of parliament, representatives of political parties, public organisations and organisations of solidarity with the Korean people from Finland, Denmark, Norway and Iceland, and members of parliament and representatives of political parties, trade unions, youth organisations and organisations of friendship and solidarity with the Korean people in Sweden.

Gustav Lorentzon, ex-parliamentarian of Sweden, made an opening speech at the meeting.

At the meeting Sakari Knuutila, Social Democratic Member of Finnish Parliament and Chairman of the Nordic Cooperation Committee for Friendship and Solidarity with the Korean People, made a political report titled "On the Situation Prevailing in Korea" and representatives of Denmark, Norway and Iceland made supplementary reports titled "On the Struggle of the Korean People for the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of the Country," "On the Complete Abolition of the 'Yusin System' and the Democratisation of South Korean Society" and "On Strengthening Solidarity with the Korean People."

Warmly hailing and supporting the new proposals for national reunification advanced by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on January 11, they held that the south Korean authorities must accept them without delay.

The presence of U.S. troops in south Korea is a main obstacle to the settlement of the question of Korean reunification, they noted. They strongly demanded the United States immediately withdraw all its troops and nuclear weapons from south Korea in accordance with the UN resolution and accept without delay the proposal of the DPRK on replacing the armistice agreement with a peace agreement.

An appeal to the world people, a letter to U.S. Congress and an action programme of the Nordic Cooperation Committee for Friendship and Solidarity with the Korean People were also adopted at the meeting.

The appeal denounced the "two Koreas" plot aimed to perpetuate the division of Korea and pointed out that a wide-range dialogue should be arranged between the north and the south for promoting the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea.

It stressed that the reunification of Korea should be realised in accordance with the three principles and five-point policy of national reunification advanced by President Kim Il Sung.

It called upon the world people to support Korea's reunification.

The letter to U.S. Congress demanded an end to the U.S. interference in the internal affairs of the Korean people and an immediate withdrawal of U.S. troops from south Korea.

The action programme said that a large-scale movement for supporting the peaceful reunification of Korea would be waged.

S. Korea Foreign Debts Totals $20.6 Bil.: Dong-A Ilbo

According to a report from Seoul, south Korean foreign debts reached 20.601 billion dollars as of the end of 1979. This shows a 39 percent increase (5.83 billion dollars) over a year before. (The Dong-A Ilbo, Feb. 11)

According to data presented by the Finance Ministry to the 9-men subcommittee of the Finance Committee, as of the end of 1979, south Korea's long-term (more than 3 years) foreign debts reached 15.117 billion dollars, mid-term (1-3 years) foreign debts, 562 million dollars and short-term (less than 1 year) foreign debts 4,923 million dollars.

South Korea's annual amounts of foreign debts was 3,548 million dollars in 1972, 4,260 dollars in 1973, 5,937 million dollars in 1974, 8,454 million dollars in 1975, 10,533 million dollars in 1976, 12,648 million dollars in 1977. This shows the annual amount of foreign debts increased 4 times in 7 years.

South Korean authorities are planning to induce 7 billion dollars of foreign capital from the IMF to cover the deficit. Therefore, this year's total amount of foreign debts is expected to reach more than 25 billion dollars.

Pyongyang, Moscow Denounce "Team Spirit '80"

Rodong Sinmun (organ of the CC of the WPK) Feb. 20 printed a commentator's article titled "Reckless Acts Must Be Stopped!" in connection with the joint military exercises of the United States and south Korea codenamed "Team Spirit '80" which will be held for more than 50 days in south Korea from March 1.

The military exercises will be participated in by U.S. and south Korean puppet land, naval and air forces 160,000 strong, and many warships, military planes and various combat equipment of different types will be mobilized.

Reports say that the scale of participation of armed forces in the scheduled exercises is "greater" than that of the preceding "Team Spirit" exercises.

In view of the scale of the mobilization of armed forces and weapons and of the contents of the manoeuvres, the coming exercises are combined offensive operation exercises, the article notes, and says:

The planned "Team Spirit" is exercises of quickly lifting and deploying U.S. armed forces in south Korea from the U.S. mainland and the Pacific area. This shows that it is evidently military manoeuvres for fostering the deployment capacity of the "quick reaction corps."

The "Team Spirit" operational exercises are planned war manoeuvres designed to oppose the Korean people. The exercises prove that the war preparations of the U.S. imperialists in south Korea are being further stepped up in scale, extent and manner.

The exercises are an undisguised threat of "force" to the Korean people and an unpardonable act heightening tension and endangering peace in the Korean Peninsula.

To step up its war preparations, the article remarks, the United States is spurring on reinforcing the south Korean puppet army, while beefing up its own armed forces in south Korea.

All these acts of the U.S. imperialists clearly show that they attempt as ever to keep hold on south Korea indefinitely as their colony and turn it into a base against other countries of Asia by perpetuating the division of Korea by "strength."

The military exercises planned by the United States in south Korea are not only greatly detrimental to the preservation of peace in Korea and Asia but also obstructive to the solution of the question of our country's reunification.

By staging the noisy military exercises at a time when the contact of the working-level delegates started for arranging contact between the premiers of the two sides and the attention of the world is focused on Korea, the United States is casting gloomover the road of the dialogue.

Can it be called an act showing that it is interested in peaceful reunification and welcomes the dialogue?

We are consistently striving for peace and peaceful reunification. But the United States behaves quite contrary to this.

After all, this patently shows its ulterior intention to create "two Koreas" and keep south Korea under its control as ever by obstructing the reunification of our country and fixing its division.

The United States talks in word about peace and the peaceful reunification of Korea. But, in actuality, it is increasing tension in Korea and continuously laying an obstacle to the reunification of the country. Such double-dealing acts can never be justified.

All facts prove that a threat to peace in Korea comes from the south, not from the north.

It points out:

While talking about the dialogue, the south Korean authorities keep slandering the new proposals for peaceful reunification advanced by us, the other party of the dialogue, and stage provocative military exercises one after another. This is not a stance for peaceful reunification.

The article stresses:

By holding military exercises frequently the U.S. ruling circles and the south Korean authorities try to frighten not only us but also the south Korean people calling for democratic freedom and national reunification. But this is an anachronistic act which can be supported by no one.

If the United States truly wants a peaceful settlement of the Korean question, it must work to create favourable conditions and climate for promoting the contact and dialogue between the north and the south and realising peaceful reunification.

To this end, it must stop first of all such wrong acts as continuously shipping lethal weapons into south Korea, staging military exercises and instigating the south Korean authorities to obstruct the reunification, prolong the division and becloud the atmosphere of the dialogue.

At the same time, it must take the road of replacing the Korean Armistice Agreement with a peace agreement and having negotiations with us, as repeatedly proposed by us.

This is beneficial to guaranteeing peace in Korea and in other parts of Asia and to the United States itself.

The United States must think twice and stop indiscreet acts.

The U.S. authorities must renounce the old policy of "strength," stop the war exercises and withdraw from south Korea their nuclear weapons and other weapons of destruction and their troops.

Tass

A Tass report from Tokyo February 14, exposing the large-scale military exercises codenamed "Team Spirit '80" scheduled in south Korea, said:

The exercises will be held with participation of land, naval and air forces and marines of the United States and south Korea.

Apart from the U.S. occupation troops stationed in the southern part of the Korean Peninsula, the Hawaiian artillery brigade, ships of the U.S. Seventh Fleet, strategic and tactical Air Force deployed at U.S. bases in the Pacific Ocean and the western coast of the USA and Okinawa-based marines will be dispatched to participate in the exercises. The total number of servicemen who will participate in the "Team Spirit '80" is more than 150,000.

The lifting, deployment and carrying out of operations by the U.S. army in cooperation with the south Korean armed forces in the Korean theatre in case of "emergency circumstances" will be perfected in the course of the exercises, according to the spokesman of the U.S. army command.

Pointing to the qualitatively new character of the "Team Spirit '80," the observers said that the exercises are a practical step to perfect the U.S. plan for interfering in the internal affairs of the independent states of this and other areas of the world by force of arms and directly linked with the combat preparation of the "rapid reaction corps" for armed interference.

S. Korea Univ. Students Demand Democracy in Campus

Recently a series of meetings and forums have been held in south Korean campuses to demand the democratization of campuses.

According to a report from Seoul, the "first general meeting of Seoul University students" was held on Feb. 12 at Seoul University with the participation of 1,200 students.

A resolution was adopted at the meeting, which demanded abolition of "students defense corps" and restoration of students' autonomous organisations.

Students at the university held meetings and public hearings several times from the end of last year to draw up the rules of the students' autonomous association.

On February 13, a public hearing was held at Yonse University on the rules of the university and the restoration of students' autonomous organisation with the participation of 700 students.

At the public hearing, students voiced demands for democratic freedoms such as (1) guarantee of the freedom of students' political activities, (2) prohibition of government inspection of universities and (3) guarantee of freedom of students meetings and association.

Some time ago "a committee for the democratization of the campus," was formed at Koryo University as a temporary self-government association pending restoration of the general association of students.

The committee was developed from the "preparatory committee for democracy on the campus" which had been operating since October. The committee comprises more than 300 students including the representatives of 28 students circles.

The committee was formed to reflect the opinions of all the students in the work of democratization of the campuses—revision of students roles. (The Choson Ilbo, Feb. 5, 1980)

Students' meetings were also held at Tongguk University, Sone Gyun Gwan University, Ehwa Women's University to demand democratisation of the campuses.

At a time when the demand of the people for the abolition of the "yusin system" and the earlier democratization of the society, students and professors who were expelled from campuses on the pretext of "violation of emergency measures" since 1974, are expected to be reinstated.

The number of students who were expelled from the campuses under the pretext of "violation of emergency measure" after 1974 is as follows: 297 at Seoul University, 56 at Koryo University, 56 at Yonse University 34 at Kyonghuk University, 31 at Chonnam University, 28 at Kyong Hui University, 27 at Sogang University, totaling 793. Of them, all the students except those who were forced to join the puppet army and those who are still imprisoned and those who were graduated, are expected to return to the campuses by the end of March.

KOREA FOCUS

American Interference

Who is a prime mover on the south Korean political scene today? Any informed observer promptly replies, "Of course, the army is in command. The army is under the operational control of the United States."

Last year, Vance, American foreign secretary, prior to his departure for Seoul to attend the funeral services for the assassinated strong man, expressed the stated readiness of his government to give American advices on the future political course of south Korea, if requested by Seoul. In short, he was referring to the resolve of the American Government to exert strong clout in the post-Pak south Korean politics. Reporting this remark of Vance, Japanese dailies wrote a predominant view within the American Administration was that it was desirable to choose a president in accordance with the "yusin" constitution and have the new government undertake a constitutional amendment. The papers reported unidentified American government sources. As it turned out, a new president was picked up under the "yusin" constitution.

In a message to the new president on his election, U.S. President Carter assured him of full American support for an effort to achieve political accommodation and orderly progress, while preserving the brilliant exploits of the past. Obviously, Carter was giving a positive assessment of the dictatorship of Pak Jung Hi and was supportive of martial law-guided "political accommodation and order." Assistant Secretary of State Holbrooke reaffirmed American support to the ongoing political development in south Korea when he visited Seoul to brief the south Korean officials on the outcome of the China visit of Defense Secretary Brown.

For the United States to keep control and intervene in, the internal affairs of south Korea, the army proves to be the most effective instrument. The Americans and the south Koreans are trying to make believe that the armed forces alone are capable of keeping the political confusion in south Korea under control. The legal basis for such American operational control over the south Korean armed forces is an agreement to grant the UN (American) commander (U.S. operational control over them and the Combined Forces Command activated in the latter half of 1978 under which the south Korean armed forces are placed. Once in an interview with The New York Times, Kim Yong Sam, President of the Opposition New Democratic Party, questioned the presence of over 30,000 GI's in south Korea as an act of interference in the internal affairs of Seoul. As he put it, the deployment of American troops constitutes an overt act of intervention. A Reuter dispatch December 12 dealt with the arrest of then martial law commander Gen. Chong Sung Hwa by troops of the 9th Division stationed along the DMZ. Reuter reported the American commander stood helpless as the 9th Division troops were diverted for the arrest of Gen. Chong. In other words, the American general, well aware of the situation, did not try to stop the troop movement.

With such American connivance or under American control, the south Korean armed forces are calling the shots behind the Choi Gyu Ha regime. Pretending to be out of politics, the military is influencing the course of events supposed to be under civilian control, all under the pretext of maintaining law and order. In a reply to a letter from four ultra-rightist organizations including the disabled veterans society, the Martial Law Command stressed that it would never tolerate the reckless conduct of any individual or any group to generate political extremity against the existing social order. The individual or group referred to democratic dissidents or opposition parties or other democratic forces.

The south Korean people are not necessarily ignorant of the intervention of the United States and the arbitrariness of the army. Their resentment is evident in numerous statements as issued by various social segments. In their November 3, 1979 joint statement, Yun Po Son, Kim Dae Jung and Ham Sok Hon declared: "Good-minded government employees and the armed forces should stand by the side of the people and help fulfil their demands (for democracy)." In his December 8 statement issued after his release from many years of detention, Kim Dae Jung stated: "The military should not deviate from its traditional respect to the population." Kim Yong Sam, NDP President, restrained the army by reminding that "the armed forces have a proud tradition and history of serving unfailingly the people." The Korean Council of Churches for Social Missionary Work, comprising seven Christian organizations, issued a joint statement with them on November 17, expressing a hope that the armed forces would not damage its honor by being involved in politics."

All these statements urged the military to remain politically neutral and disband the Martial Law Command, a means of influencing politics.

As for foreign interference, a November 24 mass rally, held in Seoul, with several thousand citizens attending, to protest the election of a president by the National Conference for Unification, adopted a "Statement for the Formation of a Democratic Coalition Government." The statement observed: "We reject any form of foreign interference in the process of democracy in our country. No foreign power or no foreigner is better informed of specific ways of bringing democratic order than us. We are possessed of the sufficient capability and resolve to undertake restoration of democracy free from any foreign interference as we are proud citizens of an independent nation. All foreign forces should refrain from giving the impression that they are supportive of the remnants of the Yusin regime or of the intrigue to prolonging the Yusin dictatorial regime."

These demands are an indication of the south Korean people's knowledge of the move of the military to maintain the "yusin" regime and of the United States exerting strong influence on the internal matters of south Korea.

While warning others not to intervene, the United States openly interferes with the internal affairs of south Korea and stands in its democratic development as if the Americans have an legitimate right to do so. The continuation of such behaviour will invite bitter reaction from the south Korean public and produce waves of anti-American pronouncements and demonstrations.

Education Where North and South Stand

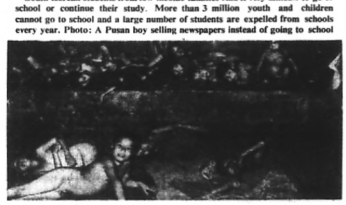
Comparing Pyongyang and Seoul in education is an easiest and most reliable guide to the nature and economic and cultural levels in the northern and southern halves of the divided Korean Peninsula.

Below is a brief fact sheet aimed at giving factual accounts of education in the two parts based on available statistics....Ed.

	North	South
Population	17 million	37 million
Per Capita Income	$1,920(1979)	$1,242(1978) (Korea Annual, 1979)
Total Enrolment	8.6 million	9.6 million (ditto)
No of Nurseries & Kindergartens	over 60,000	721 (ditto)
No of Primary Schools	4,700	6,426 (ditto)
No of Middle & High Schools	4,700	3,268 (ditto)
No of Colleges & Universities	161	74 (ditto)
Is education free	Yes The state gives free education to all children and students from kindergartens to universities, all school things are gratis.	No Two third of the education budgetary revenues comes from tuition.
Period of Compulsory Education	11 years	6 years
No of Students Per Teacher	25	45 (Dong-A Ilbo, Aug. 15,1979)
Shortage of Classrooms Colleges & Universities	No	40%
Primary, Middle & High Schools	No	8.6% (The Korea Times, Nov. 30,1979)
Shortage of Teachers Middle School	No	16.9%
High School	No	36.4% (ditto)
The unemployment rate of graduates of vocational high schools	0%	50-60% (Dong-A Ilbo, Jan. 13, 1980)
	Everyone is provided with a proper job according to his ability and aptitude.	The unemployment of graduates of high schools and colleges is drastically increasing.
Are high school students are dissatisfied with the educational system?	No	90% (Dong-A Ilbo, July 14, 1979)
Teen-age Crime	No	predominated "Terrible teen-agers" show no sign of remores even after they are arrested by police. (Hanguk Ilbo, Jan. 23, 1980)

In the DPRK the state gives free education to all children and students studying at educational institutions of all levels. Photo: Pyongyang kindergarten children having a good time on a picnic

South Korean students from low-income families find it very difficult to go to school or continue their study. More than 3 million youth and children cannot go to school and a large number of students are expelled from schools every year. Photo: A Pusan boy selling newspapers instead of going to school



It was learned on Aug. 24 last year that 8 mentally-retarded kids in the Chongju Nursery, North Chungchong Prov. had been killed and buried secretly. The incident is just the tip of the iceberg. Photo: Kids at the Chongju Nursery, who are kept in a dirty and narrow room with no clothes on (The Hanguk Ilbo, Aug. 24, 1979).

Betrays Its Anti-Reunification Stand

Pyongyang is urging Seoul to stop immediately all its blatant slanders against the northern half, now that north-south contacts have been under way to arrange a Premiers meeting on the reunification issue.

Expressing restrained displeasure at the ever-violent propaganda from south Korea, Pyongyang has disputed the motive on the part of Seoul in agreeing to have a Premiers contact and called into question its interest in the reunification issue.

Pyongyang's comments came in articles of Rodong Sinmun, organ of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea.

Rodong Sinmun on February 15 in its commentary titled "A Correct Stance toward Dialogue Must Be Taken" denounced a high-ranking person in south Korean authority.

On February 21 it also carried a signed commentary titled "Anti-Communist Smear Propaganda Must Be Discontinued At Once!" condemning the south Korean authorities for intensifying a smear campaign against the DPRK behind the screen of the north-south contact now going on, by setting its subsidized propaganda machines in motion.

Follow gists of commentaries of Rodong Sinmun:

Pyongyang Urges Seoul to Approach Dialogue in Good Faith

Rodong Sinmun said:

It is very indiscreet of a responsible person, who holds a high position in authority and should back up contact arranged between the north and the south, to make such irresponsible utterances insulting the other party of the dialogue.

This is an act creating distrust between the north and the south and inciting hostility against us and an undisguised challenge to the other party of the dialogue.

The signed commentary titled "A Correct Stance toward Dialogue Must Be Taken" said: Today when the dialogue between the north and the south has made a new start, an important problem is to respect each other and create a favourable climate for the dialogue.

It continued:

The utterances of the high-ranking person in south Korean authority describing our new initiatives and proposals for peaceful reunification as a "camouflage" and the like reveal after all his insincere attitude toward reunification and dialogue.

If our just stand and proposals are a "camouflage," how should we interpret the fact that he himself expressed an intention to have a dialogue in his recent policy address and statement at the press conference?

If we say that it is a camouflaging tactics or a trick to cause internal disturbance among us, would he say yes?

It cannot be a decent act in view of the elementary morality to groundlessly slander the other party of the dialogue, though he cannot welcome its sincere efforts.

The south Korean authorities' act flinging mud at us at a time when the north-south contact has been arranged and a dialogue is being gradually matured shows that their aim is, in the final analysis, to mislead public opinion, dampen the ardent desire of the people of all walks of life in south Korea for national reunification and maintain the division.

Moreover, their unending provocative military exercises against us behind the curtain of contact saliently reveal their ulterior intention.

The unjust behaviours of the south Korean authorities are only inimical to contact and dialogue between the north and the south.

Noting that the demeanor of the high-ranking person in south Korean authority reminds us of the acts of the former dictator, the commentary stresses:

To hurl an insult at the other party of the dialogue behind it is an expression of his insincere attitude toward the dialogue and this attitude cannot be construed otherwise than his dislike of reunification.

The south Korean authorities must discontinue the unchanged act of beclouding a climate of dialogue, inciting the consciousness of confrontation and creating tension.

The south Korean side must have a sound reason and divorce itself from the consciousness of confrontation and honestly approach the dialogue.

Continued Anti-Communist Propaganda

Rodong Sinmun noted:

Using two channels of "Radio Chungang" they started a malicious anti-communist propaganda against us under the name of "Voice of Hope" after we sent letters proposing bilateral and multilateral contacts between the north and the south to the representatives of political parties and organisations and politicians of the south. In particular, they are employing every base means and method, focussing their propaganda on vilifying our stand and proposal on the contact between the Premiers of the north and the south.

Such acts are shamdless ones misleading public opinion at home and abroad and throwing cold water on the dialogue which has been arranged with so much efforts.

This is also a challenge to the three principles, independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity, clarified in the July 4 north-south joint statement and, especially, provocation against our proposal on finding a way out for the nation through collaboration and unity.

What matters particular attention, the commentary says, is the fact the false propaganda of radio "Voice of Hope" is quite similar to the assertion of the south Korean authorities speaking ill of us.

This shows that the propaganda of radio "Voice of Hope" full of tricks, fabrications and hypocracy is scripted and directed by the authorities, the commentary remarked, and said:

How hard they may try to put the label of "objectivity" on the broadcasting of radio "Voice of Hope," they cannot cover up the stark fact. The voice is not one for dialogue and reunification but one opposing dialogue and reunification.

The commentary continued:

If the south Korean side had a true intention when they agreed to have the contact between the Premiers and truly want it, they should express it in deed, not in word.

How can we say it is a serious stance for dialogue to agree in word to have contact between the Premiers of the two sides and conduct a smear campaign against the other party of the dialogue in practical deed, contrary to their profession?

It is an outright perfidy violating even good faith and morality to offer a hand in the face of the other side and to shake a fist behind its back.

The smear campaign against communism in one half of the territory of the country is aimed at obstructing the reunification, fixing the division and creating "two Koreas."

The south Korean side had better think over the consequences of its anti-communist propaganda and act with discretion.

The south Korean side must stop at once the malicious propaganda against us.

DPRK As I Saw (5)

Continued from the previous issue

Before I went to the north, one foreigner told me: "The people of the north stress the equality of their social system, but words to leaders and those to ordinary people are different there. From this point, people are not equal in the north."

I think his words could be easily understood if we think about the north in the light of the history of our nation, customs and Korean people's ways of thinking. It is difficult to understand the social system of the north only in terms of political systems and theories.

Korea has been influenced by Confucian ideas since olden times. In the Li dynasty, Confucianism became the state religion, used by rulers as a means of bolstering the feudal society. The ideas were created by Confucius (a Chinese philosopher) to use as a means of controlling people and the situation as rulers wanted.

When Confucius became an attorney general of Lu, he formulated moral principles modeled after the ideas of Chou's king who had ruled people well. The moral principles said that when people keep their own positions properly, they could live happily without any trouble. This is the so-called moral rules to govern the Five Human Relations.

The Korean people's thoughts are deeply based on these moral rules even now. They say proudly, "Ours is the 'country of etiquette'". Of course, the government of the north did not completely take over such religious ideas in its policies. The basic principles of Confucian ideas—the idea to control people and the state to the interests of rulers— is contrary to the principles of the northern government's policies which considers the people as masters of the society. So they do not believe in religion. But, people still have some old customs and moral based on Confucian ideas—there is social order according to ages, and people think that etiquette should be observed between even close friends. The guide said that even under any social system, good morals should be preserved.

I felt that the social system of the north is based more deeply on nationalism than on socialism. And I could reaffirm this thinking from what an official of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland said to me. He said, "What good is there if we built a communist society without our own nation?"

Visitors to the north, not only southerners but foreigners, strongly criticize the cult of personality. But we should think of the reason why the people admire President Kim Il Sung so much.

Some people said that the north was a despotic state. But, from my viewpoint, it did not seem to be a despotic one. I thought that people's respect for the President was not a result of oppression or exploitation by the rulers. Why can't dictator President Pak Jung Hi get respect from the people? Why do not only people in the country but also people of other countries fight against him at the cost of their lives?

I think that the north Koreans' respect for the President is voluntary. Whenever I saw documentary films, people enthusiastically welcomed the President when he appeared before citizens in the films, some shedding tears. No one can force people to have such affectionate feelings. The northern people sincerely admire him and thank him, I thought. People's such acts show how they respect their leader and how they believe in his teachings and policies. After the war, in a difficult condition, people lost everything as a result of raids by U.S. planes, President Kim Il Sung taught the people that first of all they should rehabilitate the country by themselves (according to the Juche idea) and whenever a difficult situation arised, he worked out countermeasures and showed them how to overcome difficulties (such as the Chongsan-ri Spirit, the Taean Work System). We were also convinced of the cor rectness of the President's leadership when we saw that the social system of the north gave full consideration to enable the people to live happily as masters of the society. Since northerners do not regard the President as a dictator, they do not call him "dictator", but the great leader.

Moreover, President Kim Il Sung is respected by people in developing countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America. Because the policies which are based on democracy, and the President's philosophy (the Juche idea) encourage the people of developing countries who regard them as guideline for construction of a new society.

From those countries which are now in difficult conditions similar to those which Korea once experienced, many politicians, technicians, and mechanical engineers come to the north to study the President's political ideas, industrial and agricultural policies and techniques. Many heads of those countries sent presents to President Kim Il Sung expressing thanks to him for providing opportunities of study to their fellow countrymen. To exhibit those gifts, the International Friendship Exhibition was built on Mt. Myohyang.

A foreigner whom I met in an airplane referred to the exhibition hall, saying that such a building was useless. It was just a waste of people's energy to complete such a building, he said. But, some people in the north said: In the long history of our nation, many kings of Korea presented gifts to kings of other strong countries to express their subordination to foreign kings. Our nation had received no present at all from any foreign country's head. We feel proud, seeing the gifts sent by many countries' heads with great respect for and in appreciation of President Kim Il Sung's work. Hearing them saying so and thinking of our country's history, I, myself, understood the reason why the northern people built such a building and exhibited those gifts there.

During our stay in the north, I was convinced of the correctness of President Kim Il Sung's guidance and his greatness by seeing the social system, and I felt proud knowing that Koreans had such a democratic social system, as a Korean.

Between the late 19th century and the early 20th century, Chinese and Japanese modernized their countries, according to plans made by the leaders of their countries. But, south Korea has been modernized only to satisfy the rulers' passions for power, completely relying upon foreign powers without any plag to develop the country. It was a modernization only on the surface. In such a social system, who can speak for the oppressed farmers and workers? I am ashamed of such a social system and my heart grieves whenever I think of it.

My visit to the north gave me a chance to feel proud of the fact that at last the Koreans had a leader who always thought about the country and its people.

(Concluded)

—Industrial Establishments—

Songrim & Kangso Aeguk Textile Factories

Near the estuary of the Taedong River, there is Songrim City which is famous in the country for its iron works and the Songrim Aeguk Textile Factory.

Aeguk means patriotism. The reason why the textile factory has this name is because the factory was built at a suggestion of Koreans in Japan. Workers and compatriots of the Edogawa Branch of Chongryun (the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan) in Tokyo sent textile machines, large quantities of materials and funds for the building of the factory on the occasion of the 62nd birthday of President Kim Il Sung in 1974.

It has a full cycle of production facilities and equipment to produce knitwear. In the factory, 180 knitting machines are installed. Several kinds of knitted fabrics in many colors and patterns are automatically turned out and carried to the sewing workshop. Large quantities of sweaters, skirts and children's clothes are made there. The factory has a productive capacity to turn out sufficient clothes for every child in Songrim City in two to three months. According to the manager of the factory, it helps increase the production of consumer goods in Songrim City where are more than 20 other enterprises and factories. It also contributes toward satisfying people's demand for clothing.

In Kangso, in the area upstream from the Taedong River, there is the Kangso Aeguk Textile Factory, which was built at the initiative of the workers of the Second Ueno Chapter of the Taito-ku Branch of Chongryun in Tokyo.

The three-storeyed factory manufactures more than ten kinds of clothes including sweaters, tights, sportswear and children's clothes. Products from the factory are sent to many parts of the country.

The manager said in front of the automated knitting machines, "We are working hard, fully and carefully using the machines sent here by compatriots in Japan with warm patriotism. If clothes from this factory are sent to south Korean people, how wonderful it would be!"

Weaver Chon said that she was fulfilling her daily production task 120 percent to help hasten the reunification of the country.

(To be continued)

Inside of the Kangso Aeguk Textile Factory built with the patriotic cooperation of Koreans in Japan (They sent machines, materials and funds for the construction of the factory.)

Chongsan-ri Today

Today the Korean rural villages have all been turned into rich and modern socialist communities.

Chongsan-ri, Taean City, is one of these villages.

It was a poor village before liberation.

After liberation it changed into a paradise good to live in, like all other villages of the country.

It has become widely known to the world since President Kim Il Sung gave an on-the-spot guidance there 20 years ago and founded the Chongsan-ri Spirit and the Chongsan-ri Method.

After the war 16 households formed an agricultural cooperative with one cow in Chongsan-ri. But now it has turned into a socialist modern village resembling a town, a modern agricultural production base where farming is done by machines and chemicals.

Standing in the centre of the village are the house where the great leader guided the general membership meeting of the WPK organisation of Chongsan-ri on February 8, 1960 and the Chongsan-ri Museum of Revolutionary History. And 2 or 3 storeyed modern houses heated by hot water are standing in rows in harmony with a mass house of culture of 600 seats, schools, a hospital, a creche and a kindergarten.

More than 160 hectares of orchards occupy the hills lying on the background of the village and the fields looking like chessboards are well irrigated. They are all tilled by machines.

The cooperative farm has 120 tractors and lorries, scores of rice harvesters, 80 rice-transplanting machines and 1,000 trailing farm machines of over 40 kinds.

Last year the farm mechanized nearly 50 processes of farming.

Irrigation and electrification were completed long ago and mechanization and chemicalization are making a fast progress. As a result, agricultural work is turning into industrial work.

Twenty years ago there was only one assistant engineer. But now 24 engineers and 200 assistant engineers are engaged in scientific and technical farming there.

Farm produce is on a yearly increase.

Before liberation 700 kg of barnyard millet and sorghum were harvested from each hectare. Now each hectare produces more than 10 tons of grain.

As against 20 years ago the output of grain increased 3.3 times, fruits 46 times, meat 11.6 times, cocoons 8.2 times and vegetables 6.4 times.

An average of 10.4 tons of grain and 1,960 won in cash went to each household last year.

Indeed, the Chongsan-ri villagers now enjoy a life little different from the living conditions and living standard of the townsfolks, freed from centuries-old backwardness and poverty, under the wise guidance and warm care of the President.

EDITORIAL

N-S Talks Reopened

North and south Korea held a second round of talks on Feb. 19 at the truce village of Panmunjom to further discuss the arrangement of an inter-Korean premiers' conference aimed for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country—the first talks was held on Feb. 6 at the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission at the truce village of Panmunjom.

The basic accord was reached at the meeting on holding the premiers' conference, but both delegations disagreed on procedural matters.

The three-member delegations from both sides agreed to hold a third round of talks on March 4 at Freedom House, a south Korean building across the Military Demarcation Line at the border truce village, in order to seek for an accord on the venue and agenda for a premiers' meeting.

During the second session, Seoul proposed Geneva, but Pyongyang said the high-level meeting should be held in Pyongyang and Seoul alternately.

The Seoul side insisted that the agenda be determined at the working-level talks, while the Pyongyang side said that it was better for the two premiers to determine the agenda, saying "It will be far more significant for the premiers to meet face to face and decide what to discuss."

The south Koreans also proposed that the premiers should be accompanied in their talks by four high-ranking officials including two cabinet ministers or vice ministers.

The DPRK responded with a proposal that the prime ministers be accompanied by some 30 officials and about 30 newsmen.

Pyongyang asserted that the planned premiers' conference should be part of multifaceted contacts among politicians between north and south. In return, Seoul stressed a just procedure before holding the premiers' conference.

The current series of inter-Korean contacts, first in a year, began after Li Jong Ok, the Premier of Pyongyang, proposed the first-ever premiers meeting in a letter, dated Jan. 11, to Sin Hyong Hwak, his counterpart of Seoul. The Seoul officials, however, describes the serious proposal of Pyongyang side for reunification as a "disguised peace offensive" and a maneuver to "disrupt" south Korean society.

The Seoul officials are bent on monopolizing the discussion of the reunification problem, keeping a lid on the freedom of expression of the south Korean people.

In addition, the south Koreans are engaged in military games against the DPRK in order to build up their military forces under the pretext of the fictitious "threat of southward invasion." The largest-scale south Korean ground troop exercise since its founding was waged at the end of January on the assumption of the invasion from the north.

A south Korea-U.S. joint military din "Team Spirit '80" is likely to be kicked off on March 1. This reminds us of the fact that the last north-south dialogue was destroyed by the south Korean and U.S. military officials who launched the joint military exercise "Team Spirit '79" last spring.

The Carter administration, giving lip service to the north-south dialogue, is resorting to the "two Koreas" plot.

Clamping the "martial law" on the whole of south Korea after the assassination of Pak Jung Hi, the Seoul authorities are keen on cracking down on the people striving for the reunification of Korea and creating the atmosphere of confrontation with the DPRK.

The Seoul officials, with the backing of the U.S., are running counter to the spirit of the reunification of the country, while taking a part in the north-south dialogue.

William Gleysteen, U.S. Ambassador to Seoul, and Gen. John Wickham, commander of the U.S.-S. Korea Combined Forces Command, are striving to create a war atmosphere, saying that "the U.S. will block the southward invasion" by the DPRK.

As a matter of fact, the Carter administration has no intention to help the proposed north-south talks to arrange a premiers' conference.

The reunification of Korea is an urgent problem which can brook no delay.

The problems on the venue and agenda for the premiers' conference can be settled when the both sides have intention to direct all power to realization of the reunification of the country.

Photo shows Seoul citizens giving an enthusiastic welcome to the northern delegation when the latter visited Seoul to attend red cross talks between the north and south of Korea. (September, 1972)

Prospects for Democracy in S. Korea

This year's anniversary of the "March 1 Popular Uprising" erupted in 1919, is coming with a bright prospect for the reintegration of divided parts of the Korean Peninsula thanks to the north-south working-level reunification contacts.

On March 1, 1919, or about sixty-one years ago, more than 2,000,000 hundred Korean people—men and women, young and old from all walks of life—with burning aspirations for the liberation of their fatherland and for national independence, rose and staged a large-scale anti-Japanese demonstration in various parts of Korean soil.

Since then, the south Korean people, though they were liberated from the yoke of Japanese imperialism thirty-five years ago together with the northerners, remain subjected to the denial of democracy and human rights, as a result of the division of the Korean Peninsula.

For the fifty million Koreans at home and abroad, nothing is more urgent and more important than achieving the reunification of the divided home country.

In order to achieve an independent and peaceful reintegration of the divided Korea, the democratization of south Korea is a foremost job in its process. National reunification and democracy are not separate nor are they independent of each other.

"Constitutional Revision"

After four months since the assassination of Pak Jung Hi, south Korea faces a good opportunity for a "constitutional revision" and for democracy and reunification, despite some discouraging developments.

Even the ruling Democratic Republican Party, a group of Pak's policy supporters, can not but refer to a "peaceful constitutional revision" question.

President of DRP Kim Jong Pil on January 25 in an interview with newsmen said with regard to "constitutional change," that "the party does not intend to hold its own public hearings on a 'constitutional revision' at the moment."

Speaking at the New Year press conference at the New Democratic Party, President Kim Yong Sam of the party asserted that "a revision to be made by the bipartisan National Assembly Constitutional Revision Deliberation Committee should be put to the national referendum when it is turned over to the 'government.'" (The Dong-A Ilbo, Jan. 27, 1980)

On the other hand, on January 30 four leading dissident leaders met together in Seoul to examine a future south Korean political scene from various points of view.

NDP President Kim Yong Sam, former president Yun Bo Son, Democratic Unification Party President Ryang Il Dong and former presidential candidate Kim Dae Jung had talks at Yun Bo Son's house to discuss the political problem of south Korea, and issued a statement.

In the statement, they agreed to oppose a "constitutional revision" under the leadership of the present "government," to demand the immediate abolition of "martial law" and the prompt release of all the political prisoners, and to urge Choe Gyu Ha to rehabilitate and reinstate those whose civil rights had been forfeited.

Choe Ok Cha, former director of the Institute of Women's Problems of Rihwa Women's University, in the Second Public Hearing on the Constitutional Revision held on January 11, at the NDP headquarters, said "The constitution of the Fifth Republic should develop the popular will of the Tonghak revolution, the national spirit of the March 1 Popular Uprising, the democratic spirit of the April 19 revolution and the will to unification of July 4 joint statement and embody the national aspiration for a unified Korea." (The Dong-A Ilbo, January 12, 1980)

On the other hand, Kim Hak Chun, the assistant professor of the social college of Seoul National University, said in his article contributed to the January issue of magazine "Sin Dong-A" that: "There is no doubt that the south Korean grassroots are, not having a clear knowledge of what democracy is to be realized in the future, on their mark of democratic development. No forces can hold in check the people advancing towards the democratization of the south Korean society."

Thus, ushering a new year 1980, the south Korean people expect some progress in the democratization of the society and want it strongly out of consideration for the long-cherished desire for reunification.

A view of the first public hearing on the "revision of the constitution" sponsored by the "National Assembly Constitutional Revision Deliberation Committee" held in Seoul on January 14, this year

Grand Alliance

Democratic dissidents have emerged a most potent forces.

Last year, the democratic dissident forces achieved grand alliance whose effective evidence is to be sought in the Pusan-Masan affair which is an indirect cause of Pak's assassination at the hand of his closest associate.

According to the January issue of Japanese theoretical magazine "Sekai," nearly 200,000 crowds, including students and workers rose in Pusan and Masan in opposition to the Pak's dictatorial rule.

The formation of the National Union for Democracy and National Unification came on March 1, last year, on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the March 1 Popular Uprising, as the umbrella body of 13 dissident organizations.

The grand alliance of the democratic forces became a reality when the newly-elected NDP President Kim Yong Sam committed his party to joint forces with the national union.

The anti-establishment stance expressed by Kim Yong Sam and his party of NDP was underlined as NDP president firmly associated his party with female workers of the bankrupt Y.H. Trading Company who sought for support and sat in the NDP head office. Also it should be noted that the No. 2 opposition party Democratic Unification Party agreed to merge with the NDP.

With the Y.H affair as its turning point, the marriage of political parties on one hand and non-party dissident forces including the labor movement on the other was established.

Democratic Measures

Under these favourable conditions for democracy, what kind of democratic measures must be enforced?

In the public hearings sponsored by the National Assembly Constitutional Revision Deliberation Committee held in Seoul on January 16, Professor Kye Hi Ryol of the college of law, Korea University, said that "The new constitution should guarantee free activities by political parties, guarantee the freedom of the press and implement a local autonomy system."

Professor Choe Ho Jin of the south Korean academy asserted in the same place: "The three labor rights should be guaranteed as it is one of the principles of democracy." (The Choson Ilbo, Jan. 17, 1980)

The "new constitution" should ensure all the fundamental rights of the people, freedom of the press, assembly, demonstration and association and the rights of the workers and peasants to existence.

Public welfare holds an important factor for real democracy.

Unprecedentedly skyrocketing high prices accelerated by the recent measure of a 59% raise in oil prices have thrown the popular masses into distress, enabling only the corrupt privileged to enjoy the results of the so-called "marvelous" economic growth.

The three rights of labor should be restored to workers and agricultural cooperative associations to peasants.

An export-oriented national policy should be abolished or revised. The interests of the workers plundered abroad to enrich a handful of ruling circles should be ensured.

Grand alliance of democratic dissident forces was achieved when former presidential candidate Kim Dae Jung shaked hands with NDP president Kim Yong Sam at meeting of Kim's supporters to the party convention to elect a new party president held in May , 1979.

Major Demands

The following are basic demands of what the south Korean people want in a true democracy:

1) To make the present "yusin" dictatorial regime resign and establish a democratic coalition government representing broad-national intention and advocating democracy, independence and reunification through national unity;

2) to annul the "yusin constitution" and all other fascistic laws including "anti-communist law" and "public security law";

3) to disband the repressive machines such as "Central Intelligence Agency";

4) to release all the political and conscientious prisoners;

5) to ensure such elementary democratic rights as freedom of speech, the press, assembly, association, religion and demonstration; and

6) to proclaim a new democratic constitution and establish a democratic constitutional government based on the division of the three powers and a nation-wide local self-government system.

Brief News From S. Korean Dailies

Minimum Living Cost for Urban Family of 3—192,370 Won

According to a report released on December 31 by the Federation of Korean Trade Unions, the minimum cost of living for an urban family of three was 176,700 won as of the end of November, 1979, the cost is expected to reach 192,370 won by March to come and the cost for an urban family of two 148,060 won.

The federation put the minimum cost of living for an urban family of two at 133,230 won, that for the family of three 176,700 won and that for the family of four 222,312 won. (*The Choson Ilbo*, January 1, 1980)

Downhill Run: Recession, Taxes Stall Auto Makers

The prolonged business recession is inflicting great hardship on the nation's auto makers.

Industry sources said on February 19 that the operation ratio of three local auto plants, a key yardstick of the business activities, has been on the steen downhill since July last year after the domestic oil prices went up by 59 per cent.

"If this trend continues, the operation rate is feared to decrease to 36 per cent or so by the end of next month," an official at a local auto plant observed.

The inventories of the car industry stood at as much as 72,000 million won as of February 19, posing a threat to the vehicle production activities in the nation.

The tax burden on vehicles, cited as a major factor behind the car market slump, accounts for some 65.2 per cent of the production cost for small vehicles. Of the ex-factory price of 3,162,823 won for a compact car, the production cost amounts to 1,914,662 won, while 1,248,161 won is paid as commodity tax.

In the case of medium-size cars, 2,849,440 won out of the ex-factory price of 5,528,743 won per car is collected as tax to represent 106.3 per cent of the production cost. The tax rate goes up further in the case of large-size cars as 9,663,375 won (182.9 per cent of the production cost) is levied as tax against the ex-factory price of 14,946,343 won.

As a result of this hefty tax rate, the ex-factory prices for automobiles are pushed up higher, thus stagnating the domestic demand for those products. In terms of value, the automobile stocks were learned to run at some 72,000 million won as of February 19 as against 44,500 million won in optimum levels of inventories. (*The Korea Herald*, February 20, 1980)

Bank Lendings Far Surpass Deposit Rise

The bulk of the lending facilities of the nation's five commercial banks turned out on February 19 to be borrowings from the central banks instead of the deposits.

According to the annual reports for the fiscal year 1979 filed by the city banks, the growth rate of deposits with the five city banks last year stood at mere 24.8 per cent while that of the borrowings from the Bank of Korea registered 56.9 per cent. The five banks are the Commercial Bank of Korea, the Hanil Bank, the Korea First Bank, the Chohueng Bank and the Bank of Seoul and Trust Co.

Accordingly, the interests paid by the commercial banks against the borrowings from the central bank increased by 116.7 per cent last year.

The interests of the call-money which the commercial banks paid to the foreign banking institutions operating in Korea or the specific banks under the direct wing of the Ministry of Finance, also increased by 68.3 per cent last year.

(*The Korea Herald*, February 20, 1980)

Large or Small: Savings Drive Grips Businesses of Nation

The tap water faucet at a fashionable office building in downtown Seoul is no longer pouring water as before. Instead, piped water is trickling down, taking much more time to fill a tea kettle than ever before.

The time taken to fill up a tea kettle is the barometer of the penny-pinching mood now sweeping the nation's business enterprises across the board.

From the start of this year, the won currency devaluation against the U.S. dollar and the hike in bank interest rates rocked the general households and the business firms alike.

And then came the sweeping oil price increase, electricity charges raise, price markup of manufactured goods and hikes in some transportation fares.

The enterprises are now tightening their belts trying to cut every possible corner on their corporate expenditures. In some office building, they do without electric light at least in the corridors, if not in the office rooms.

Energy savings and rationalization of corporate management is pursued to the fullest extent by every size of enterprise. It is sighted that even a sheet of office paper and one drop of water is the object of the economy drive.

Some companies, which had branched out like an octopus into so many business fields with the financing of domestic banks or foreign loans, have embarked on pruning their own branches. Some of their affiliated firms and overseas branch offices are now up for sale.

In the case of one business group, it has decided to lay off 40-50 percent of its staff, while searching for take-over bidders for four or five firms under its wing.

A certain general trading company has already dismissed some 60 staffers who have worked three or four years for the group.

It was learned that the Dong Ah Business Group is about to reduce the number of directors by 60 from the present 250 to 190. Samsung and Hyundai Groups are virtually demoting a sizable number of high rankers by transferring them to the affiliated companies against their will.

(*The Korea Herald*, February 19, 1980)

Financial Squeeze Hits Small Firms

The nation's small-and medium-size business establishments are suffering from the monetary squeeze these days.

According to the Small Industry Promotion Corporation on February 18, some 90 per cent of the settlement of the big enterprises are being made in the commercial papers instead of cash.

To make things worse, the papers are maturing in six months from the previously two to three months, it pointed out.

(*The Korea Herald*, February 17, 1980)

Bathhouse Charge Increased by 71%

Charges for public bathhouses in Kwangju were increased by an average of about 71 per cent over the weekend.

The bathhouse charges for adults went up by 75 per cent to 500 won from 300 won while that for children was raised from 210 to 350 won. (*The Korea Herald*, February 19, 1980)

Invisible Trade in 1979 Registers $112 Mil. in Red

Korea's invisible trade balance reversed to a deficit of $112,800,000 last year from the preceding year's surplus of $400 million, according to the latest statistics released by the Ministry of Finance.

Such a sudden swing to the deficit, ministry officials said, was due mainly to a sharp increase in expenditures in the account including freights, insurances and overseas travel expenses despite fat revenues from large construction service export earnings reported at $2,004,100,000 for last year.

The statistics show receipts from freight and insurance service last year totaled $1,057,100,000 as against expenditures amounting to $1,566,500,000 leaving a deficit of $509,400,000; revenues from tourism was $331,500,000 during the period as against $830,300,000 in expenditures, leaving a deficit of $73,800,000; income from overseas investments reached $331,500,000 as against $1,503,100,000 in home remittances of earning by foreign investors in Korea, leaving a deficit of $1,171,600,000; and revenues from construction and service exports totaled $3,075,700,000 as against payments of $1,428,200,000, leaving a surplus of as much as $1,647,500,000.

Last month, the invisible trade balance was $26,600,000 in the red with receipts of $349,600,000 and payments of $376,200,000.

(*The Korea Herald*, February 17, 1980)

In Seoul: Business Cools;—Bath Demand 100% Increase

Public bathhouses in Seoul suspended business beginning on February 16, demanding that the charges for the business establishments be raised as a result of the many recent price hikes.

Owners of public bathhouses are said to have suffered from 30,000 to 40,000 won in losses daily in the wake of the oil price hike, increased electricity charges and piped water raises.

It is said that the public bathhouse operators demand that the bath charges be increased to 800 won from the present 400 won.

The bathhouse charges were last raised in September last year from 300 won to 400 won.

(*The Korea Herald*, February 17, 1980)

Military Equation

At present the Korean Peninsula enjoys no lasting peace but is in a state of temporary ceasefire, as vast numbers of armed forces of north and south Korea stand face to face across the Military Demarcation Line Playing up the "threat from the north", Washington decided to keep in abeyance indefinitely its planned troop withdrawal from south Korea and has been stepping up joint war games with the south Koreans, including "Team Spirit." The following is an analysis on the military equation between the north and south of Korea. (Population and military expenditure are based on figures in the 1979-80 edition of Military Balance)

POPULATION:	North, 17,580,000 South, 37,760,000	
MIL. EXPENDITURE:	North (1978) $1.2 bn. South (1979) $3.22 bn.	
MIL. AID FROM ABROAD 1979:	North, nothing South, $1.1 bn.	
FOREIGN TROOPS:	North, nothing South, 38,000 U.S. troops	
COMBINED FORCES COMMAND:	North, nothing South, the U.S.-Korea Combined Forces Command	
OPERATIONAL CONTROL:	North, Supreme Commander of the Korean People's Army South, Commander of the U.S. Forces in Korea	
WAR GAMES 1979	North, nothing South, 5 major exercises	
RECONNAISSANCE PLANE SENT:	North, nothing South, U.S. reconnaissance plane SR-71	
NUCLEAR WEAPONS:	North, nothing South, 800	
DISPATCHED TROOPS ABROAD:	North, no South, a total of 47,872 troops to Vietnam from 1964 to 1969	

"Chun Hyang-jon", Korean "Romeo and Juliet"

—Technicolor Film Produced—

Recently, a film entitled "Chun Hyang-jon (The Tale of Chun Hyang)" was produced by the Korean Feature Film Studio of the DPRK.

The film was based on the novel "Chun Hyang-jon", believed to have been written in about the 18th century. "Chun Hyang-jon" is based on legend, and the author's name is unknown.

This is a tale of two lovers, their separation and sufferings and eventual reunion. The novel reflects the life and feeling of the people in the feudalistic society well. The novel criticises social unequality between *Ryangban*, the aristocratic class, and *Sangmin*, the common people, in the society under the Ri Dynasty. It also shows young men and women could love each other regardless of their property and social standings.

"Chun Hyang-jon" is a Korean "Romeo and Juliet."

The heroine of a film is Chun Hyang, a daughter of Wolmae who was a famous retired *kisaeng*, at Namwon, Cholla Province, and the hero Ri Mong Ryong, a son of an official at Namwon appointed by the central government.

* *Kisaeng* means a professional entertainer. *Kisaeng* in those days were excellent in some special arts and are different from today's *kisaeng* of south Korea. For hundreds of years *kisaeng* were intellectual women of Korea. They were the only privileged women with enough free time to create new art forms as well. They were not prostitutes and they took as lovers only those men whom they loved.

The film begins with a scene in which Chun Hyang and Ri Mong Ryong met by chance on the day of the May Festival (the 5th of May in the lunar calender when young girls enjoyed swinging and young boys played Korean restling) at the Ojak Bridge of Kwanghang-ran... and came to love each other.

Chun Hyang was lovely and tender. Further, she was excellent in poetry and in other literary writings.

Mong Ryong fell in love with Chun Hyang and pledged to love her to the end of his life.

He sent the following poem to Chun Hyang:

"Though flowers blossoming in a spring breeze
are scattered by winds,
Deep love, once born in the heart,
will never fade even if Mt. Kumgang should crumble"

Shortly after, Mong Ryong's father was promoted to a higher position and was called to Seoul (called Hanyang in those days) by the central government. Mong Ryong's parents were opposed to their son's relations with Chun Hyang of low status.

Chun Hyang tried to go to Seoul with Mong Ryong. However, her dream of going up to Seoul was shattered and was compelled to separate from Mong Ryong.

On parting, Chun Hyang and Mong Ryong exchanged a ring and a mirror with each other and pledged to love each other even if separated.

Time passed but she heard nothing from Mong Ryong.

As Chun Hyang was badly off, she made a living by weaving. She stayed constant to her lover, hoping that Mong Ryong would succeed in passing *Kwago* examinations (to get qualified to become a high-ranking government official in the feudalistic society).

Pyon Hak To, a wicked bureaucrat, was newly appointed as a government official at Namwon. As soon as he came there, Pyon Hak To tried hard to bring Chun Hyang to share bed with him.

Whatever intimidation and temptation he employed, Chun Hyang did not yield to his request. Pyon Hak To, unable to gratify his desire, charged Chun Hyang with an unjustifiable crime and put her into prison.

Then, he proclaimed that she would be executed on his birthday.

On the other hand, Mong Ryong passed the *Kwago* examinations in Seoul and became an undercover agent for the king (*Amaengosa*—agent dispatched to regions by the king in order to obtain information on the misgovernment of regional officials and the realities of the people's living).

Mong Ryong went down to the country, leading many followers.

One day he met a *panja* (a man in the service of a regional office) who was on his way to Seoul with a letter of Chun Hyang, and came to know what had happened to Chun Hyang.

Mong Ryong raged and ordered his staff to investigate the crimes of Pyon Hak To in Namwon.

Later, Mong Ryong went to Namwon and met Chun Hyang's mother Wolmae. Next day, Mong Ryong, disguised as a poor traveler, attended a birthday party held for Pyon Hak To.

On the occasion, Mong Ryong sang the following poem. The poem criticized the bureaucrats, who exploited people and led a corrupt life.

"Good wine in a golden cask
is from the blood of one thousand people,
Dainties served on jem-studded tables
are obtained by squeezing the people,
Look that candle dripping drops of molten wax,
They are tears of the grudge of all the people,
Though you are making merry, singing loudly,
the people will surely raise their voices of grudge"

When the party was thrown into confusion, it was informed that Ri Mong Ryong was an undercover agent of the king.

Amid cheers, Pyon Hak To was punished and Chun Hyang was rescued.

The story about Pyon Hak To by Mong Ryong shows a progressive element in the light of the social conditions in those days. In addition, the story reveal the suppression and exploitation of the people and corruption of the feudalistic bureaucrats in those days.

The film "Chun Hyang-jon" is a color film, consisting of the first and the second parts.

It is a two and a half-hour film.

Chun Hyang and Mong Ryong pledged their unfailing love.

Chun Hyang detained in a prison

Reunion of Chun Hyang and Mong Ryong

Save All Political Prisoners in S. Korea

—Interview with O Ki Sun, Mother of So Brothers—

The Japanese daily "Asahi Shimbun" dated Feb. 20 carried an interview with O Ki Sun, mother of So Chun Shik and So Sung who are Korean residents in Japan and now being detained in south Korean prisons on the groundless charges of being involved in a "spy-ring case."

O Ki Sun, 59 years old, has traveled to prisons in south Korea for about 60 times for the past 9 years since her sons were arrested. She is now down in a hospital in Kyoto with a illness and her progress toward recovery is not satisfactory.

She is extremely anxious for her sons' release believing their innocence and the reunification of the homeland.

Introduced here is an excerpt from her interview:

I visited my native place in 1966 for the first time since the liberation of my country. My native place was a common place where I felt relieved. It is in a farm village of South Chungchong Province. I was brought up on a farm. My family was poor and had nothing to speak of.

I thought what my fatherland was to me. As I heard my native place was in south Korea, I couldn't forget the native place. I have always thought that my native place is in south Korea. Gradually, I came to hope that when my children grew up, and I became old, we would return to my fatherland, build a house in my native place, one of my sons would become a teacher and I would enjoy my life.

Though there were moments when I seemed to forget my fatherland, I never forget it. I thought where my roots were.

I repeatedly said to my children from their childhood that they were Koreans and their name were Korean. I expected much of my sons. I wanted to have my children study as much as they wanted. I wished they would be teachers.

When my sons went to Seoul for studying, I was very happy(though they were born in Japan and brought up there, they wanted to live in the homeland). Even if my dream was not realized, I had my hope for my native place, because my sons went to my homeland.

I wanted to boast my sons whenever I met people. Things, however, went different and contrary to what I wanted them to be ....

When I heard that my sons had been arrested, on the groundless charge of being "leaders of a spy-ring working for the north," everything went black.

I searched for my sons everywhere in Seoul. I was told at the KCIC that my sons were bad boys.

They said that I was a strange woman because I didn't cry. South Korean mothers usually weep, when their sons are unhappy, crying "Oh My, Oh My!" They cry: "You have ruined the reputation of our family," or "I must die for you." They cry, "Please repent for the sake of your mother."

Therefore, officials blamed me for not saying such words. I was exhausted. They used filthy language against me until I could meet my sons—one hour, sometimes 2-3 hours. But it was only for 5-10 minutes that I could meet my sons. They said the meeting with my sons was not for talking. I was made to sit in the presence of 2 or 3 prison officials.

When I met my sons, I had nothing to talk about with them. I could not remember what I had to speak to them. Still, I spoke a little bit to my sons and then the officials interrupted me. Anyway, there was not enough time for a talk. I just asked them about their health.

I was rudely treated at Chongju reformatory (Chun Shik is). The officials always said to me that I spoke unnecessary things to my son. They repeated if my son renounced his ideas, he would be released. Then, I said I knew nothing about his ideas and asked them to speak so to my son.

Whenever I met my son, the section chief or the head of the reformatory accompanied me and exchanged high words with my son (Chun Shik). As long as sharp words were exchanged between them, I supposed, my son would never be released.

There are many political prisoners in south Korea who have been detained since the Syngman Rhee regime. They are now old and many are believed to be detained in the same prison where Chun Shik is. Also detained in Taegu prison where Sung is, are many political prisoners who allegedly violated the "National Security Law."

I met a graduate from Seoul University in a sad plight there. He visited Japan for a while at the invitation of his parents in this country. He was arrested on charges that his parents were communists. It was when his daughter became two-months old. When he was sentenced to death, his daughter was three years old. He told his daughter to be obedient to her mother, when his wife and daughter came to meet him. His daughter, who knew nothing, said, "papa, papa." His wife was still young and modest. It looked her heart was filled with sorrows and was unable to say anything. He was finally executed. How sad! How ruthless.... I can't forget him. It's really a cruel thing.

There are many Koreans in Tokyo who are in deep grief(families of political prisoners of Korean residents in Japan.) In south Korea there are many more people who are suffering. I can't speak well, because I'm a poor speaker.

My sons were charged with violating the "Anti-Communist Law." So, ordinary people there kept us at a distance. There are some people, however, who encouraged us.

When I called on a public prosecutor or to obtain permission to meet my son, a handcuffed man there, who seemed to be a friend of Chun Shik's said, when the prosecutor left his seat, "Mother, it's good that Chun Shik's sentence has been commuted to 7 years."

People in south Korea don't think there is a need for the "National Security Law." Some people seemed to encourage us.

At a hotel, a manager or someone who held a high position there told me that they were not helpful to me, when they were alone with me.

Someone told me: "You can obtain the release of your sons if you hand out much money to some south Korean lobbyists in Japan." I could not but be surprised and disappointed. The question was not that of only one or two people.

As a mother, I envy those who were able to return to Japan by pledging to renounce their former ideas.

However, I believe my sons are right. Therefore, I don't want to think that my sons will return by renouncing their ideas. Even if I ask them to do so, they will never listen to me.

My eldest son was sentenced to life imprisonment and my younger son is still in the detention house in such a way, though he had already served his term.

I wish I can find a way to appeal to law, or words of appeal. However hard I thought, I couldn't find proper words. Only my feelings remained. (In the course of questionings by the "KCIA", Sung had received bad burns in his face and hands. Chung Shik also disclosed that he had been tortured. Kim Jae Gyu, who killed Pak Jung Hi, was "KCIA" director in those days. Now he says in a military tribunal that he did the act for a democratic revolution.)

He spoke admirable things. But, originally he had been of the same group. I can't understand. I am a Korean but I really can't understand however hard I think. Basically, there is no change in politics there.

For 30 years our country has remained divided. Before its division, it was occupied by Japan. Everything has gone against our will. As I am a Korean, it's not good for me to speak ill of my homeland. However, the Koreans are divided and can't unite, though there are many excellent people in my homeland.

I hold great expectations of the resumed north-south talks. The reunification of the country is difficult but I think it will surely be achieved. The reunification is the only way for a fair solution. I quietly pin my hopes on the recent north-south contact.

I hope not only my sons but also all people who are languishing under the "National Security Law" will be set free.

Unless such people are released, north-south talks will not develop smoothly.

I don't know what is right, but what I clearly realize is that the reunification should be attained at any costs.

What I hope for my sons is that they will become people who will love their homeland whatever happens, not people who would turn traitors.

My fatherland will be wonderful when it is united. However poor it may be, I suppose, I can love my country. Now, I am undergoing hardships as south Korea remains what it was before. But I don't hate any person of my country. This is another matter.

When the country is united and the country becomes peaceful, I think, all people will become good-natured. After all I love my compatriots and Korea, my homeland. Wherever I may go, I am a Korean. Koreans are after all Koreans. I wish things will go well in my country and the country will surely be reunified.

Though my sons are being treated cruely, I never want them to lead a selfish life by ratting on others. This is my sincere wish.

I sometimes think that to love one's fatherland is such a thing.

I love my country, as I am a Korean, though my fatherland foments us. Then I wish my sons will study and live honestly when they are released. Though they do not seem to be set free easily.

Every mother think: It is natural that her sons should be helped without their mind being changed.

I never want my sons to be set free by apologizing in spite of their innocence.

Case of So Brothers

In April, 1970, the "KCIA" flamed up a campus spy-ring case and arrested about 50 people including some youths from Japan. Among them were So Sung (34), student of the postgraduate course of the liberal arts and science college of Seoul University, and So Chun Shik (31), student of the law college of the same university. They were arrested on charges of violating the "National Security Law" and the "Anti-Communist Law". They were alleged that they had manipulated the students movement against the third-term presidential election of Pak Jung Hi.

So Sung was sentenced to death in the first trial on Oct. 2, 1971 and life imprisonment in the second trial on Dec. 7, 1971. His final appeal was dismissed in March, 1971; So Chun Shik to life imprisonment in Oct. 22, 1971 and 7-year prison term, on Feb. 14, 1972. His final appeal was also dismissed on May 23, 1972.

Though his prison term expired in May, 1978, Chun Shik was detained again that time under the "Public Security Law" proclaimed in July, 1975. Its aim is to rearrest the released dissidents who are not obedient to the authorities for "national security" reasons.

Tortures were inflicted upon the So brothers. After tortures by fire and electricity, So Sung was minus ears and he could not close his eyes due to the contraction of the muscles.

mother of the So brothers

The So brothers at a Seoul court: So Chun Shik, left, and So Sung, right, whose ears were minus because of the torture by the authorities

Short Story:

Happiness (3)

By Sok Yun Ki

(Continued from No. 980 issue of The People's Korea)

It was early one July morning in 1955 that I got off the train at M station.

You may recall there were people who said that I chose that particular place because I wanted to find a sanctuary in which to nurse my pains and heartaches over my lost family. People could not understand why I quit teaching at the college.

From the war I had gone to the college. As a matter of fact, I was still in uniform minus only shoulder-straps. But have you ever thought about who my students were? I had to lecture before bemedaled veterans. I must confess I really did not know how to go about it. I lectured on the theory of a renowned academician. Admirable as it was, it was not enough for these honest people who had shed blood for the country; many of them had been wounded, had seen their buddies die.

Yes, it was true I had been in the war, too. But where had I been? In a field hospital far removed from the front. Don't take me wrong. The three years that I spent at the front taught me a lot. An ordinary man, a surgeon, I grew into a Party member, a revolutionary fighter though much was yet to be desired in me.

And I returned asking then unanswerable question. I realized that to the heroic people of our land the word "man" meant more than a biological entity of cell tissues and different systems. As I said, the war years taught me a lot, yet they presented many questions. For instance, I asked myself, as a surgeon, do I have the right to let death take away these people? If not, what do I propose to do? Which is more powerful in treatment, modern medicine or the will of the human being?

As an instructor I should be able to give answers when such questions were put by the students. I was unprepared to give full answers. So, one might say that my going to the place M—where there were many disabled soldiers—was in a way running away from the dignity and rigidity of science.

Then I must mention another point. After all, I'm no exception. It would be untrue if I say now I never thought of my wife and child killed in the war. But whether you believe me or not, something bigger than grief overwhelmed me. It was my urge for revenge. That's right. I wanted to take revenge on the enemy who had taken away my loved ones from me. The cursed Yankees—I must have my revenge on them, a hundred fold and a thousand-fold.

The night trip had taken a lot out of me, but my heart was light as I made my way to the county hospital in that strange place.

It was still dark, I remember. The town was then in the midst of rehabilitation and reconstruction. A few new brick buildings stood here and there in the vicinity of the railway station and along the main street. But there were many vacant lots where houses were to go up eventually—some were, I could see, prepared for construction. And the rows of young trees just planted waved their branches in the morning breeze as if greeting me. And I felt so "close" to the young trees because, after all, I too was a sapling, like them, transplanted in unknown soil.

As I walked in the grey twilight I kept thinking: What kind of soil is this I'm in? I wanted to meet the people quickly. I speeded up my pace to the hospital. The county hospital was not in the town but on a hill, some way off. I learned the building had been the office of an experimental farm.

When I reached my destination I found of course no outpatients. It was much too early for that. The place was so quiet. I went around from one room to another, but not a soul was to be seen.

I opened the door of the room with the sign "treatment," expecting to find a doctor on duty. But it was empty too. It was spick and span. It must have just been cleaned. And the air was clear tinged with the special "odor" of a hospital. For a moment I wondered where everybody was.

Suddenly the sharp laughter of a woman broke the silence. It came from the back yard, where I rushed. The back yard rose gradually toward the mountain. An old zelkova tree stood in the yard and a woman in white gown kneeling on the ground kept ordering:

"Come on out, you naughtly one! Hear me, come on out!"

What's this? I gaped open mouthed. Judging from the voice, the woman was a young one. So, I could not just go barging up so abruptly. She kept her position. She sounded one minute like she was threatening some one, then she would let out a peal of laughter.

Most awkward for me. I stood watching her at a loss. But I could not just stand there indefinitely.

So I moved slowly towards the big tree where she was.

Evidently she had an animal pen under the tree for experiments. It seemed she was playing around with an animal and it was hiding itself behind a rock by the pen. The girl laughed, coaxed, threatened. When the animal did not come out she railed at it. Now it looked hopeless and she was almost in tears, I thought.

"Don't irritate me. Don't stay there. Come out at once. Do you hear me?"

The rock was not a big one. I stepped forward determinedly.

"Excuse me, but did something run away?"

She started and jumped to her feet.

It was not fully light yet, but I could see her, a girl of a radiant face and vigor. Her presence seemed to fill the air about her with sweetness. Something in her laughter had a familiar ring creating a cordial atmosphere. To my question, she answered most apologetically:

"It is a white mouse. I was so bored that I took it out while I was feeding it. Now it's hid itself."

Evidently she was so upset about it that she had no time to give another thought to my presence, a total stranger. She was as innocent as a child.

"You sure it went back behind the rock?" I asked. "It might have run away to the mountain."

"Oh, it couldn't! It is for experiment," she answered in a tearful tone.

"Then, let it be there." I wanted to tease her since she tried to defend the white mouse. But I could not do that very well.

Telling her that if she must have it back I would help her, I removed the rock. Sure enough there was a white mouse digging the soft soil, rolling its yellowish eyes. It did not even try to run away. Really it looked cute, even I could not help smiling.

"You, naughtly one!"

She was so glad to find it, she let out a shout of joy and grabbed it in a flash. She gave a few strokes to the mouse before putting it back in the cage.

Now she became conscious of me. She looked me over from head to toe.

"Thank you very much. By the way, are you here so early to see a doctor?"

"No, I'm the new head of the surgery department."

"Oh!"

She gaped and stared.

"Then you must be Dr. Sin Hyong Jin...I'm so sorry. I am Li Ok Ju, I am in the surgery."

She seemed glad to see me. The hospital head had been notified from the provincial seat of my coming, so everyone was expecting me. And I felt flattered to learn that they had been waiting for me, thinking that I could be some service to them. But at the same time a new sense of my heavy responsibility bore down upon me. But I must add this, it ooes not make you feel bad at all to start a new life knowing everyone around you is expecting something of you. Then I was darn happy to have an assistant like Ok Ju. A personality like her can brighten the surgery—sometimes it can be gloomy.

She led me to the "treatment" room. It was getting brighter outside, but I had not yet had a chance to have a good look at her. She carried a bunch of flowers she had left on the pen and a small pail containing her toilet articles.

In the hospital corridor I noticed a white flower struck in the back of her hair. Evidently, when she was out in the yard after cleaning the room, she had picked the flowers, then had the trouble with the white mouse.

I tell you frankly I felt good about the whole thing and a sense of serenity. She carried an air of fragrance about her and it cleared away all my fatigue of the overnight train-ride as if it had worked some wonders in my head. I was calmness itself.

When I stepped into the room, she turned round and smiled. For the first time in the bright light I had a chance to see her face—a face of beauty and vivacity. I stood there as if nailed down, staring at her.

Why? Because in her I saw Kyong Suk herself! Remember Kyong Suk whom you said was dead and that you even buried her! This I can say now. But at that moment a thought flashed across my mind, "you played a nasty joke on me!"

(To be continued)

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